

Application No.: 10/249,352
Filed: April 2, 2003
Page 2 of 10

Examiner: Mark H. Paschall
Group Art Unit: 3742

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A thermal conditioning beverage container holder comprising:
a housing defining a chamber sized to receive at least one beverage container and having an access opening permitting access to the chamber;
a convection airflow generator fluidly coupled to the chamber and configured to deliver thermally conditioned air to the chamber; and
a size-adjustable beverage holder container support configured to support eups-beverage containers having different vertical heights and differing-different cross-sectional area sizes.
2. (Currently Amended) The thermal conditioning beverage container holder of claim 1, further comprising wherein the a-beverage container support comprising comprises first and second recesses located within the chamber, the first recess being configured to receive the bottom of a beverage container having a first maximum diameter-cross-sectional area and a second recess being configured to receive the bottom of a beverage container having a second maximum diameter-cross-sectional area that is larger than the first maximum diametercross-sectional area.
3. (Currently Amended) The thermal conditioning beverage container holder of claim 1, further comprising a resizing element comprising wherein the beverage container support comprises a plate having at least one opening for receiving a beverage container and which is movable between a first position, where the plate overlies a lower portion of the chamber and reduces the effective cross-sectional area of the chamber, and a second position, where the plate is withdrawn from overlying relationship to the lower portion of the chamber such that the

Application No.: 10/647,699
Filed: August 25, 2003
Page 3 of 10

Examiner: William E. Tapolcai
Group Art Unit: 3744

beverage holder is configured to hold a smaller circumference beverage container of smaller cross-sectional area in the first position than in the second position.

4. (Currently Amended) The thermal conditioning beverage container holder of claim 2, wherein the beverage container support is part of the housing and forms the bottom of the chamber, and the housing further comprises a peripheral sidewall extending upwardly from the container support and terminating in an upper lip that defines a chamber opening, the peripheral sidewall further comprising an inlet fluidly coupled to the convection airflow generator through which conditioned air is delivered into the chamber.

5. (Currently Amended) The thermal conditioning beverage container holder of claim 1, further comprising a storage chamber and a storage chamber cover for selectively covering the storage chamber.

6. (Currently Amended) The thermal conditioning beverage container holder of claim 1, wherein the housing further comprises a peripheral wall defining the sides of the chamber and a support wall spaced from the peripheral wall on which a thermoelectric element is mounted, a blower fan being positioned between the support wall and the peripheral wall and being in fluid communication with the chamber to provide conditioned air to the chamber.

7. (Currently Amended) The thermal conditioning beverage container holder of claim 1, further comprising multiple segments movably mounted to the housing for selectively closing the access opening.

8. (Currently Amended) A thermal conditioning beverage container holder configured to be mounted in a motor vehicle between the front driver and passenger seats, the beverage container holder comprising:

a housing configured to define a console for the motor vehicle; the housing having an open chamber sized to receive at least one beverage container and having an access opening permitting access to the chamber;

Application No.: 10/647,699
Filed: August 25, 2003
Page 4 of 10

Examiner: William E. Tapolcai
Group Art Unit: 3744

a convection airflow generator fluidly coupled to the chamber and configured to deliver thermally conditioned air to the chamber; and

~~a size-adjustable beverage container support holder configured to support cups-beverage containers having different vertical heights and differing-different cross-sectional area sizes.~~

9. (Currently Amended) The thermal conditioning beverage container holder of claim 8, ~~further comprising wherein the a-beverage container support is located within the chamber and provided with one or more recesses configured to support varying cross-sectional area sizes of beverage containers having different cross-sectional area sizes.~~

10. (Currently Amended) The thermal conditioning beverage container holder of claim 9, further comprising ~~a resizing element comprising a plate having at least one opening for receiving a beverage container and which is movable between a first position, where the plate overlies a lower portion of the chamber and reduces the effective cross-sectional area of the chamber, and a second position, where the plate is withdrawn from overlying relationship to the chamber such that the beverage holder is configured to hold a smaller circumference beverage container of smaller cross-sectional area in the first position than in the second position.~~

11. (Currently Amended) The thermal conditioning beverage container holder of claim 8, wherein the beverage container support is part of the housing and forms the bottom of the chamber, and the housing further comprises a peripheral sidewall extending upwardly from the beverage container support and terminating in an upper lip that defines a chamber opening.

12. (Currently Amended) The thermal conditioning beverage container holder of claim 11, wherein the peripheral sidewall further comprises an inlet fluidly coupled to the convection airflow generator through which conditioned air is delivered into the chamber.

Application No.: 10/647,699
Filed: August 25, 2003
Page 5 of 10

Examiner: William E. Tapolcai
Group Art Unit: 3744

13. (Currently Amended) The thermal conditioning beverage container holder of claim 8, further comprising a storage chamber and a storage chamber cover for selectively covering the storage chamber.

14. (Currently Amended) The thermal conditioning beverage container holder of claim 8, wherein the housing further comprises a peripheral wall defining the sides of the chamber and a support wall spaced from the peripheral wall on which a thermoelectric element is mounted, a blower fan being positioned between the support wall and the peripheral wall and being in fluid communication with the chamber to provide conditioned air to the chamber.

15. (Currently Amended) A thermal conditioning beverage container holder comprising:

a housing defining an open chamber sized to receive a beverage container and having an access opening permitting access to the chamber;

a convection airflow generator fluidly coupled to the chamber and configured to deliver thermally conditioned air to the chamber;

~~a resizing element comprising~~ a plate having at least one opening for receiving a beverage container and which is movable between a first position, where the plate overlies the chamber and reduces the effective cross-sectional area of the chamber, and a second position, where the plate is withdrawn from overlying relationship to the chamber such that the beverage holder is configured to hold a smaller circumference beverage container in the first position than in the second position; and

a beverage container support located within the chamber and configured to provide bottom support for beverage containers having varying different bottom circumferences.

16. (Currently Amended) The thermal conditioning beverage container holder according to claim 15, wherein the ~~resizing element~~plate is removably mounted within the chamber for reducing the size of the beverage container that can be received within the chamber when the ~~resizing element~~plate is mounted within the chamber

Application No.: 10/647,699
Filed: August 25, 2003
Page 6 of 10

Examiner: William E. Tapolcai
Group Art Unit: 3744

17. (Original) The thermal conditioning beverage container holder according to claim 15, wherein the plate is spaced above the container support when the plate is in the first position.

18. (Currently Amended) The thermal conditioning beverage container holder of claim 15, ~~The thermally conditioned beverage container of claim 1,~~ further comprising a beverage container support comprising first and second recesses located within the chamber, the first recess being configured to receive the bottom of a beverage container having a first maximum diameter cross-sectional area and a second recess being configured to receive the bottom of a beverage container having a second maximum diameter cross-sectional area that is larger than the first maximum cross-sectional area.

19. (Previously Presented) The thermal conditioning beverage container holder of claim 15, wherein the housing defines a console for a motor vehicle and is sized to fit between the front seats.

20. (Previously Presented) The thermal conditioning beverage container holder of claim 19, further comprising a storage chamber and a storage chamber cover for selectively covering the storage chamber.

21. (New) A thermal conditioning beverage container holder comprising:
a housing defining a chamber sized to receive at least one beverage container and having
an access opening permitting access to the chamber;
a convection airflow generator fluidly coupled to the chamber and configured to deliver
thermally conditioned air to the chamber; and
a beverage container support configured to support beverage containers having different
vertical heights and different cross-sectional area sizes, wherein the beverage container support
comprises a plate having at least one opening for receiving a beverage container and which is
movable between a first position, where the plate overlies a lower portion of the chamber and
reduces the effective cross-sectional area of the chamber, and a second position, where the plate

Application No.: 10/647,699
Filed: August 25, 2003
Page 7 of 10

Examiner: William E. Tapolcai
Group Art Unit: 3744

is withdrawn from overlying relationship to the lower portion of the chamber such that the beverage holder is configured to hold a beverage container of smaller cross-sectional area in the first position than in the second position.

22. (New) A thermal conditioning beverage container holder comprising:
a housing defining a chamber sized to receive at least one beverage container and having
an access opening permitting access to the chamber;
a convection airflow generator fluidly coupled to the chamber and configured to deliver
thermally conditioned air to the chamber;
a beverage container support configured to support beverage containers having different
vertical heights and different cross-sectional area sizes; and
multiple segments movably mounted to the housing for selectively closing the access
opening.

23. (New) A thermal conditioning beverage container holder comprising:
a housing defining a chamber sized to receive at least one beverage container and having
an access opening permitting access to the chamber;
a convection airflow generator fluidly coupled to the chamber and configured to deliver
thermally conditioned air to the chamber;
a beverage container support configured to support beverage containers having different
vertical heights and different cross-sectional area sizes; and
a storage chamber and a storage chamber cover for selectively covering the storage
chamber.